TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2026

Town Offices, 45 Comeau Drive, Woodstock, NY 12498 and via Zoom

PRESENT:

Supervisor Anula Courtis
Councilmember Laura Ricci
Councilmember Laurie Osmond
Councilmember Lily Korolkoff
Councilmember Reginald Earls

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Courtis called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT

Noah Eckstein, Bill Kemble

RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution for Home Rule Request
- Resolution to Create Article III of Chapter 14 of the Town of Woodstock Code to Minimize and Prevent Dangerous Interactions Between Humans and Bears
- Resolution to Send Letter to All Active Committees Clarifying Scope of Authority and Communication Protocols
- Resolution for New Planning Board Member
- Resolution to Amend Prior Resolution Regarding 41 Elwyn Lane
- Resolution to Approve Letter to Department of Transportation Regarding Unauthorized Communications from Committee Members
- Resolution Establishing NYS Elected and Appointed Official Standard Workdays

RESOLUTION 135-2026

Resolution for Home Rule Request

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Ricci

WHEREAS, Steven Kobie Jackson ("Officer Jackson") has been continuously employed by the Town of Woodstock as a part-time police officer and wishes to take the competitive Civil Service examination to qualify for a full-time police officer position within the Town; and
WHEREAS, Officer Jackson does not currently meet the age eligibility requirements set forth in New York State Civil Service Law §58(1)(a) to sit for the aforesaid full-time police officer Civil Service examination and may not do so absent an act of the New York State Legislature waiving such requirements; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock and the Town Police Chief are of the opinion that it would be beneficial to the Town Police Department and the general public if Officer Jackson were eligible to become a full-time member of the Department; and
WHEREAS, it is necessary to petition the New York State Legislature for a Home Rule Request to permit Officer Jackson to take the applicable competitive Civil Service examination; and
WHEREAS, New York State Senate Bill S.9458 and New York State Assembly Bill A.10704 have been introduced during the current legislative session, which would allow Officer Jackson to become eligible to take the competitive Civil Service examination for the position of police officer and, contingent upon his score, be placed on the eligible list for appointment as a full-time police officer with the Town of Woodstock Police Department; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Town Board that, in the interest of public safety, it is necessary to support the passage of the pending Senate and Assembly bills;
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock, in its capacity as the governing body, hereby supports and recommends the passage of New York State Senate Bill S.9458 and New York State Assembly Bill A.10704 to enable Officer Steven Kobie Jackson to become eligible to take the competitive Civil Service examination for the position of police officer and, contingent upon his score, to be placed on the eligible list for appointment as a full-time police officer with the Town of Woodstock Police Department; and it is further
RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor and/or the Town Clerk, or their designees, are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the appropriate Home Rule Requests to the New York State Senate and Assembly and to forward certified copies of this Resolution to the New York State Senate, the New York State Assembly, and the Office of the Governor.

Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis —aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls —aye

Resolution adopted 5–0.

RESOLUTION 136-2026

Resolution to Create Article III of Chapter 14 of the Town of Woodstock Code to Minimize and Prevent Dangerous Interactions Between Humans and Bears

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Ricci

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board introduce a new law creating Article III of Chapter 14 of the Town of Woodstock Code to Minimize and Prevent Dangerous Interactions Between Humans and Bears.
Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis — aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls —aye

Resolution adopted 5–0.

RESOLUTION 137-2026

AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO CLARIFY ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Ricci

WHEREAS, the Woodstock Town Board (the "Board") has established several advisory committees to assist in town governance, including the Woodstock Tree Committee, established by Resolution 71-2014; and

WHEREAS, on policy matters the Woodstock Tree Committee is advisory to the Town Board and lacks authority to countermand policies that the Town has communicated to outside agencies, to advocate for or against Town-sponsored applications or projects, or to

represent the Town's position absent an explicit grant of such authority by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, members of the Woodstock Tree Committee have sent written communications to the New York State Department of Transportation ("DOT") and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") purporting either expressly or by implication to express Town Policy in connection with the Town's pending TAP grant application for the Route 212/Bearsville project; and

WHEREAS, those communications were not authorized by the Town Board or the Supervisor, do not represent the official position of the Town of Woodstock, and contain statements that contradict the Town's official positions and misrepresent the Town to state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds it necessary to clarify the Town's official position to DOT and DEC and to provide formal guidance to all Town advisory committees regarding the scope of their authority and appropriate communications conduct; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed proposed corrective correspondence to DOT and DEC as well as a cover communication to all Town advisory committees, and finds them appropriate and necessary to clarify Town policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock hereby authorizes and directs Town Supervisor Anula Courtis to transmit, on behalf of the Town Board, the attached correspondence to the New York State Department of Transportation and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation clarifying and reaffirming the Town's official position on the Route 212/Bearsville TAP grant application, and to the Town committees clarifying their role in assisting the Board in implementing Town policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board affirms the following principles, applicable to all Town advisory committees:

1.Town advisory committees and their members serve at the pleasure of the Town Board and exercise only those powers expressly delegated to them by resolution;

2.No advisory committee, and no member thereof acting in their committee capacity, has authority to contact, advocate before, or submit communications to state or federal agencies on behalf of the Town without authorization from the Town Board or Supervisor,

3.No advisory committee or member may represent, explicitly or implicitly, that its positions are the positions of the Town Board, the Supervisor, or the Town of Woodstock without authorization from the Town Board or Supervisor;

4. Disagreements between committees, or between a committee and a Town official or body, are to be brought before the Town Board, not aired through communications to outside agencies, social media platforms operating under Town committee names, or other public forums in a manner that misrepresents committee authority;

5. Only members properly appointed by the Town Board may act in the name of any advisory committee;

6. Nothing in this resolution infringes on the right of any committee member to express their opinion in any manner or forum they deem suitable in their private capacity, provided that no such communication in the individual's private capacity shall bear the indicia of the Town or the individual's official capacity;

7. Substantial violations of this policy shall result in the individual's removal from the advisory committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized and directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution, together with the attached cover letter, to all active Town advisory committees as formal notice of these requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby directs the Town Clerk to conduct, by no later than July 31, 2026, (i) a comprehensive inventory of all active Town advisory committees, including for each committee the names of all currently appointed members, the resolution or other authority by which the committee was established, and any subsequent resolutions or directives modifying the committee's mandate or membership; and (ii) an inventory of all social media pages, groups, and accounts that use the name "Town of Woodstock," "Woodstock Town Board," or any Town committee name, including identification of the platform, account name or URL, and, to the extent ascertainable, the individual or individuals administering each account; and to present the results of both inventories to the Town Board for review at the August 2026 regular meeting or such earlier time as the Board may designate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be filed with the Town Clerk and posted on the Town website.

Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis — aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls —aye

Resolution adopted 5–0.

RESOLUTION 138-2026

Resolution to Appoint New Planning Board Member

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Ricci

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock hereby appoints Melissa Lauprete as a member of the Planning Board, effective immediately, for a term upon appointment and expiring December 31, 2028.

Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis —aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls —aye

Resolution adopted 5–0.

RESOLUTION 139-2026

Resolution to Amend Prior Resolution Regarding 41 Elwyn Lane

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Ricci

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock hereby amends Resolution No. 68-2018 regarding the residential occupancy of Town-owned property located at 41 Elwyn Lane, Woodstock, New York, to remove Shea Cocks as a lessee, retain Melissa Cocks as a lessee, and add Gavin Cocks as a lessee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the monthly occupancy payment of seven hundred dollars ($700) shall be deducted from Gavin Cocks's paycheck, effective immediately.

Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis — aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls - aye

Resolution adopted 5–0.

RESOLUTION 140-2026

Resolution to Approve Letter to Department of Transportation Regarding Unauthorized Communications from Committee Members

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Osmond

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to send the attached letter to the New York State Department of Transportation and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation stating that certain communications by Woodstock Tree Committee members were not authorized by the Town.

Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis — aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls —aye

Resolution adopted 5–0.

RESOLUTION 141-2026

Resolution Establishing NYS Elected and Appointed Official Standard Workdays

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Korolkoff

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Woodstock, Location Code 30559, hereby establishes the attached document as standard workdays for it's elected and appointed officials and will report days worked to the NYS and Local Employee's Retirement System based on the time keeping system or record of activities maintained and submitted by these members to the clerk of this body.

Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis —aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls —aye

Resolution adopted 5–0

RESOLUTION 142-2026

AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AND TRANSMIT A LETTER TO THE TOWN OF ULSTER PLANNING BOARD AND TOWN BOARD

First: Supervisor Courtis
Second: Councilmember Ricci

WHEREAS, the Woodstock Town Board has reviewed and discussed the attached correspondence regarding Zena Development; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to formally communicate its position and concerns to the Town of Ulster Planning Board and the Town of Ulster Town Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodstock Town Board hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign and transmit the attached letter, as amended, on behalf of the Woodstock Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the signature block of the letter shall be modified to reflect the Woodstock Town Board as signatories, including all members of the Woodstock Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the letter shall be transmitted to all members of the Town of Ulster Planning Board and all members of the Town of Ulster Town Board.

Vote:

- Supervisor Courtis —aye
- Councilmember Ricci —aye
- Councilmember Osmond —aye
- Councilmember Korolkoff -aye
- Councilmember Earls —aye

Resolution adopted 5–0

PUBLIC BE HEARD

- **Pia Davis**, representing the Saugerties Animal Shelter, spoke about fundraising efforts for facility improvements and inquired whether the Town could provide support beyond its current animal control services agreement. She also asked whether a budget line item could be considered for such support.
- **Jeff Moran** expressed concerns regarding affordable housing and commented on the proposed Department of Transportation (DOT) project.
- **Melissa Gibson** spoke regarding the proposed DOT project and the impacts on local businesses and the desire to have representation of the businesses when making decisions about the project.
- **Lea Haas** commented on the proposed DOT project and its potential impacts on local businesses and the desire to have representation of the businesses when making decisions about the project.
- **Zoe Keller** spoke regarding the proposed development in the Zena area.
- **Gay Leonhardt** addressed the Town Board regarding matters of community concern.
- **Tana O'Sullivan** addressed the Town Board regarding matters of community concern.
- **Urana Kinlen** expressed support for the proposed Bear Law and raised questions regarding enforcement and fines. She suggested incorporating bear-resistant waste management requirements into the Town's short-term rental regulations. She also encouraged civil discourse in public communications, discussed concerns regarding overnight post-to-post utility work, and emphasized the importance of equitable access and consideration for all residents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A reminder was provided that the June Town Board Meeting will be held on June 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., rather than on June 16.
- Appreciation was expressed to Connors Property Care for repairing the flagpole and planting flowers outside the Police Department.
- Appreciation was expressed to Meghann Reimondo for installing the Little Free Library on the porch of the Comeau.
- Appreciation was expressed to Rebekah Brooks for managing the Zoom meeting in the absence of Yvonne, who recently became a grandmother.
- Appreciation was expressed to the Woodstock Environmental Commission (WEC) for its efforts in advancing the next steps related to 10 Church Road, including securing the services of an engineer following the Town Board's adoption of a resolution on the matter.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:08 PM, Supervisor Courtis moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by: Councilmember Ricci All

present voted aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Meghann Reimondo 1st Deputy Town Clerk